

REMARKS

Claims 1-28 remain pending in this application, with Claims 21-28 withdrawn from consideration. Among Claims 1-20 currently under examination, Claims 1, 10, 19, and 20 are independent. Claims 1, 2, 5, 7, 10-12, 14-16, 19, and 20 have been amended herein.

Applicants request favorable reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

In the amendments to the specification above, Applicants have provided a new title in response to the Examiner's requirement. Applicants have also amended the abstract so that it is less than 150 words. Applicants have also reviewed the specification to address minor, typographical, grammatical, and idiomatic informalities. Applicants submit that no new matter has been added. Applicants have also amended Claim 5 to remove the reference to Step 39, as noted in the Examiner's Official Action.

Applicants note with appreciation the Examiner's indication that dependent Claims 2-6 and 11-15 appear allowable over the art. Applicants submit that these claims, as amended herein, remain allowable.

Claims 1, 8-10 and 17-20 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over European Patent Application No. 0 807 880 (Kehlet). Dependent Claims 7 and 16 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Kehlet. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants invention, as recited in independent Claim 1, is directed to an image display control system including a supply source and an image display. The supply source transmits a signal including at least a video signal and the image display receives the signal and displays the corresponding image.

The supply source in the image display control system of Claim 1 includes characteristic acquisition means, determination means, and communication means. The characteristic acquisition means acquires characteristic data of the image display when the supply source is powered on. The determination means determines a signal communication specification with the image display on the basis of the characteristic data acquired by the characteristic acquisition means. The communication means communicates a signal including the video signal with the communication specification determined by the determination means.

The image display included in the image display control system of Claim 1 includes characteristic transmission means, display communication means, and connection request transmission means. The characteristic transmission means transmits characteristic data for specifying a characteristic of the image display to the supply source. The display communication means communicates the signal including the video signal determined by the determination means of the supply source. The connection request transmission means transmits a connection request to the supply source. The characteristic acquisition means in the supply source includes detection means for detecting the connection request from the image display.

The invention as recited in independent Claim 10 is directed to an image display system control method in an image display control system having a supply source and an image display. The supply source in the control system transmits a signal including at least a video signal. The image display in the control system receives a signal from the supply source and displays a corresponding image. The method of Claim 10 includes steps of characteristic acquisition, determination, communication, characteristic transmission, display communication, connection request transmission, and detection.

The characteristic acquisition step acquires characteristic data of the image display when the supply source is powered on. The determination step determines a signal communication specification with the image display based on the characteristic data acquired in the characteristic acquisition step. The communication step communicates a signal including the video signal with the communication specification determined in the determination step. These three steps of characteristic acquisition, determination, and communication are executed in the supply source.

The characteristic transmission step of Claim 10 transmits characteristic data for specifying a characteristic of the image display to the supply source. The display communication step communicates the signal including the video signal determined in the determination step of the supply source. The characteristic transmission step and the display communication step are executed in the image display. The connection request transmission step of Claim 10 transmits a connection request to the supply source. The detection step detects the connection request from the image display.

The invention as recited in independent Claim 19 is directed to a computer program product which operates on an image display control system having a supply source and an image display as recited in the earlier independent claims. The computer program product of Claim 19 includes codes of performing steps parallel to those recited in independent Claim 10. Likewise, independent Claim 20 is directed to a computer-readable storage medium which stores a computer program operating on an image display control system including a supply source and an image display as recited in the other independent claims. The computer program stored on the storage medium recited in Claim 20 includes codes for performing steps parallel to those recited in independent Claim 10.

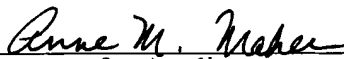
Thus, in each independent claim, Applicants' invention includes the feature of the image display device transmitting a connection request to the supply source, and the supply source detecting the connection request. With this feature, the supply source and the image display device can communicate even if the image display device is powered on after the supply source is powered on, since the connection request is transmitted from the image display device to the supply source. An example of this feature is shown in Figure 7. As the Examiner acknowledged in the Official Action, Kehlet does not disclose or suggest "upstream communication requests." Accordingly, Applicants submit that the independent claims are patentably distinguishable over Kehlet, and the other cited art, for at least the reasons discussed above.

In addition, Applicants submit that the dependent claims are patentably distinguishable over the cited art for at least the reasons discussed above for their respective base claims. Applicants further submit that the dependent claims recite additional features further distinguishing them from the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request individual consideration of each dependent claim.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration, withdrawal of the rejections set forth in the above-noted Office Action, and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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